

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /085 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9366

UNCLAS CARACAS 2953

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VE, OAS

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR TO OAS COMMENTS ON OBSOLESCENCE OF OAS
AND RIO TREATY

SUMMARY: GONZALO GARCIA BUSILLOS, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO OAS,
APPEARING ON IMPORTANT TV INTERVIEW PROGRAM "BUENOS DIAS"
MARCH 23, REITERATED VENEZUELA'S INCREASING PREOCCUPATION WITH
OBSOLESCENCE OF OAS AND ALSO CALLED RIO TREATY OBSOLETE.
END SUMMARY.

1. ASKED ABOUT PANAMA, GARCIA SAID THERE HAS BEEN DETERIORATION
OF RELATIONS NOT BETWEEN US AND PANAMA, BUT BETWEEN US AND LATIN
AMERICA, BECAUSE OF "VACUUM" IN THOSE RELATIONS CREATED BY
"KISSINGER POLICY" FOCUSING ONLY ON GREAT POWERS. HE STATED
HE DOES NOT KNOW WHY US VETOED UNSC PANAMA RESOLUTION, SINCE
IT "IS POOR, IT HAS NOTHING NEW," IT ONLY INVITES PARTIES TO
CONTINUE NEGOTIATING. EXAMPLE OF OAS "FAILURES," HE SAID,
IS THAT ITS CONSIDERATION OF PANAMA PROBLEM IN 1964 HAD NO PRACTICAL
RESULT AND LEFT PANAMA PREFERRING TO TAKE ISSUE TO UN.

2. GARCIA NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF OVERBLOWN OAS GOALS. "WE HAVE
BEEN DECEIVING OURSELVES WITH THE OAS."

3. ASKED IF VENEZUELA SHOULD DENOUNCE RIO TREATY, GARCIA
DID NOT REPLY DIRECTLY, BUT STATED TREATY "WAS THE IMMEDIATE
FRUIT OF THE COLD WAR" AND SINCE WORLD SITUATION HAS CHANGED
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" RIO TREATY IS OBSOLETE." THIS DOES NOT TRACK WITH OFFICIAL
GOV POLICY AS WE KNOW IT. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE
CONSISTENTLY HELD THAT RIO TREATY IS IMPORTANT ASPECT OF
VENEZUELA'S FOREIGN POLICY.
MCCLINTOCK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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